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STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS' AFFAIRS

ROCKY HILL VETERANS' HOME

287 WEST STREET

ROCKY HILL, CONNECTICUT 06067

RESIDENTIAL AND REHABILITATION SERVICES DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS

COMMISSIONER

DR. LINDA SPOONSTER SCHWARTZ

<u>DIRECTOR OF RESIDENTIAL</u>

<u>AND REHABILITATION SERVICES</u> *JAMES J. MCKINNON III*

RESIDENTIAL & REHABILITATION

SERVICES DEPARTMENT

The Residential & Rehabilitation Services (RRS)
Department of the Connecticut Department of
Veterans' Affairs (DVA), Rocky Hill Veterans' Home
(RHVA) is comprised of a continuum of rehabilitative
services designed to ultimately prepare veterans for
their return, if possible, to independent living in the
community. Components include Room and Board,
Substance Abuse Treatment (if appropriate),
Vocational Testing and Counseling, Training and
Education, Temporary Employment, Interagency
Work Experience, Job Placement and Assistance,
Recreational Services, Social Work Services,
Transitional Living and Alternative Living Programs.

ROOM AND BOARD

All meals, clothing and medical care are provided to residents. Each veteran admitted is billed monthly according to the Program they are in and based on his/her ability to pay as determined by our Billing Office.

VOCATIONAL TESTING AND COUNSELING

Veterans who are participating in the Veterans' Improvement Program (VIP) who express an interest in furthering their education or pursuing a specific career goal are administered a battery of tests to help them clarify their interests, aptitudes and educational levels. An individualized vocational evaluation is then developed outlining potential jobs to explore.

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Veterans have the opportunity to participate in a variety of educational courses offered on grounds or

at the local State Universities and communitytechnical colleges, vocational-technical schools, private training centers and Adult Education Centers. These courses may include a variety of college credit courses, certification programs such as Nurse Aide Training, Trade courses and G.E.D. preparation courses.

TEMPORARY EMPLOYMENT

Veterans, if physically qualified, participate in a compensated work therapy program, which exists on the grounds of the DVA. Veterans are assigned work in a number of departments depending on previous work experience, job interest and available openings.

JOB PLACEMENT AND ASSISTANCE

Once veterans are ready to begin their transition back to community-based gainful employment, assistance is provided with Resume Writing, Networking and Interviewing Skills. Vocational Staff will also refer to outside employment resources to insure greater success in obtaining gainful employment.

RECREATIONAL SERVICES

Recreational Services is provided for all Domicile Residents. Activities include Bingo, Table Games, Pool Tournaments, Softball, Basketball and Volleyball teams, movies and in-house groups. Outside trips to ball games, theater, shopping malls and local organizations are also available.

SOCIAL WORK SERVICES

Veterans are assigned a Social Worker once they are admitted to the DVA. This social worker can assist them with pursuing benefits they may be eligible for such as Social Security Disability, Retirement and Medicare. Assistance can also be provided to help veterans address financial problems, family issues,

legal matters and eventual housing needs when the time comes to discharge from the facility.

TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM

This program is available to veterans who have secured full time employment in the community. They reside in private rooms located in the Transitional Living Building, which is <u>separate</u> from the main domicile.

ALTERNATIVE LIVING PROGRAM

Once veterans have successfully maintained their community-based job for at least six (6) months or longer they are eligible to apply for residency in one of the Alternative Living Houses located on the grounds of the DVA. This teaches veterans to live independently since they must provide their own transportation, food, medical care, etc. and pay a monthly Program Fee to the DVA.

VETERANS RECOVERY CENTER

The Veterans Recovery Center (VRC) located on the grounds of the DVA provides a variety of substance abuse services to veterans who have chosen to be clean and sober and whose long-term wish is to reintegrate back into the community. The Program consists of four months of intensive treatment followed by fourteen months of extended living. Treatment components include relapse prevention, anger management, 12 Step groups and daily support meetings.